

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS PO Box 1450 Alexandra, Virginia 22313-1450 www.unpto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/790,180	03/02/2004	Takeshi Arai	501.43537X00	3237
26457 7590 63/02/2009 ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP 1300 NORTH SEVENTEENTH STREET			EXAMINER	
			ZERVIGON, RUDY	
SUITE 1800 ARLINGTON, VA 22209-3873		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
			1792	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			03/02/2009	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Application No. Applicant(s) 10/790 180 ARAI ET AL. Office Action Summary Examiner Art Unit Rudy Zervigon 1792 -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS. WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b). Status 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 December 2008. 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final. 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4) Claim(s) 5.8.9.11-14.16.17 and 19-21 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration. 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) 5,8,9,11-14,16,17 and 19-21 is/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to. 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement. Application Papers 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on 02 March 2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d). 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152. Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of: Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. Attachment(s) 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)

Paper No(s)/Mail Date _

6) Other:

Application/Control Number: 10/790,180

Art Unit: 1792

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on December 12, 2008 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
- 3. Claims 5, 11, 12, 14, 16, 17, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsukazaki; Hisashi et al. (US 5837094 A) in view of Gupta; Anand et al. (US 6125789 A), Hamelin; Thomas et al. (US 6951821 B2) and Meder; Martin G. (US 6254689 B1). Tsukazaki teaches an apparatus (Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) for processing a sample (1, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) provided with a platform (2, Figure 3) on which the sample (1, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) is placed, the processing chamber (4,12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) being provided with a measurement window (15d, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) formed on a wall of the processing chamber (12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67); exhaustion means ("booster pump"; column 6, lines 6-11) for exhausting inside of the processing chamber (4,12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) via an exhaust port (conduit 12; Figure 3) of the processing chamber

10/790,180 Art Unit: 1792

Page 3

(4,12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) a gas injector (7, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) for

injecting a gas into the processing chamber (4,12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67); a plasma

generator (not shown; column 2, lines 27-36) for generating plasma in the processing chamber

(4,12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) by application of an electromagnetic wave (column 2;

lines 27-36) inside of the processing chamber (4.12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) after the

gas has been injected into the processing chamber (4,12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) by the

use of the gas injector (7, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) - claim 5

Tsukazaki further teaches:

Tsukazaki's particle detector unit (15, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) installed outside of

the processing chamber (4.12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) detecting light which is scattered

from particles (column 3; lines 1-8) passing though the plane while the laser (15a, Figure 3;

column 1, lines 44-59) beam passes in the plane and which passes through the measurement window (15d, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59); wherein the measurement window (15d, Figure

3: column 1, lines 44-59) is installed on the wall of the processing chamber (12, Figure 3;

column 8, lines 10-67) proximate to the exhaust port (conduit 12) and outside of a plasma

generation region (above 1) so as to prevent the measurement window (15d, Figure 3; column 1,

lines 44-59) from deterioration in detection sensitivity of the light scattered from the particles

inside of the processing chamber (12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67), the laser (15a, Figure 3;

column 1, lines 44-59) introducing a laser from outside of the processing chamber (4.12, Figure

3; column 8, lines 10-67) to inside of the processing chamber (4,12, Figure 3; column 8, lines

10-67) through the measurement window (15d, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59); Tsukazaki's

particle detector unit (15, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) monitors the light scattered from the

10/790,180

Art Unit: 1792

particle crossing the plane of the processing window (15c; Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) and

Page 4

passing outside of the processing chamber (4,12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) through the

measurement window (15d, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) - claim 5

ii. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the exhaustion means (12; Figure 3 - see above)

enables evacuation of the processing chamber (4,12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67), and the

plasma generator generates the plasma after the processing chamber (4,12, Figure 3; column 8,

lines 10-67) has been evacuated, as claimed by claim 11 - Applicant's claim requirement of

"and the plasma is generated after the processing chamber has been evacuated" is a claim

requirement of intended use in the pending apparatus claims. Further, it has been held that claim

language that simply specifies an intended use or field of use for the invention generally will not

limit the scope of a claim (Walter, 618 F.2d at 769, 205 USPQ at 409; MPEP 2106).

Additionally, in apparatus claims, intended use must result in a structural difference between the claimed invention and the prior art in order to patentably distinguish the claimed invention from

ciamica invention and the prior are in order to patentality distinguish the ciamica invention from

the prior art. If the prior art structure is capable of performing the intended use, then it meets the claim (In re Casey, 152 USPQ 235 (CCPA 1967); In re Otto, 136 USPQ 458, 459 (CCPA

1963); MPEP2111.02).

iii. The apparatus (Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) according to claim 5, wherein the laser

(15a, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) and the detector (15, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) are

arranged at a substantially same position outside of the processing chamber (4,12, Figure 3;

column 8, lines 10-67) with respect to the measurement window (15d, Figure 3; column 1, lines

44-59) - claim 12

10/790,180 Art Unit: 1792

10/790 180

iv. The apparatus (Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) according to claim 5, wherein the plane in

Page 5

which the laser (15a, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) beam is scanned inside of the processing

chamber (4,12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) is disposed substantially outside of a region

(above 1) where the plasma is generated inside of the processing chamber (4,12, Figure 3;

column 8, lines 10-67), as claimed by claim 16

Tsukazaki further teaches that Tsukazaki's particle detector (15, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-

59) transmits a laser (15a, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) beam in a plane inside of the

processing chamber (4,12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) which extends in a direction

orthogonal to a direction of exhaust flow within the processing chamber to the exhaust port

(conduit 12) - claim 5

Tsukazaki does not teach:

i. Tsukazaki's particle detector (15, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) scans a laser (15a,

Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) beam in a plane inside of the processing chamber (4,12,

Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) - claims 5

ii. exhaustion means ("booster pump"; column 6, lines 6-11) for exhausting the processing

chamber (4,12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) by a turbo-molecular pump through an

exhaust passage coupled to the exhaust port - claim 5

iii. Tsukazaki's measurement window (15d, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) has a

reflection prevention film and a transparent electroconductive film coating, the

transparent electroconductive film enabling prevention of the electromagnetic wave

(column 2; lines 27-36) inside of the processing chamber (4,12, Figure 3; column 8, lines

10/790,180 Art Unit: 1792 Page 6

10-67) from leaking out through the measurement window (15d, Figure 3; column 1,

lines 44-59), as claimed by claim 5.

iv. Likewise, Tsukazaki further does not teach wherein the reflection prevention film is

coated on an outside surface of the measurement window (15d, Figure 3; column 1, lines

44-59) upon which the laser (15a, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) is incident from

outside of the processing chamber (4,12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67), as claimed by

claim 14.

v. The apparatus (Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) according to claim 5, wherein the

exhaust passage is equipped with a butterfly valve, as claimed by claim 17.

None of Tsukazaki, Gupta Hamelin and Meder teach that the claimed transparent conductive

film and the plasma processing apparatus "have a same potiential applied thereto", as claimed

by claim 20.

Gupta teaches a similar apparatus (Figure 1B, 3B) including a scanning (335; Figure 3B) laser

system (330, 335; column 8; line 41 - column 9, line 23) for particle detection and processing.

Hamelin teaches a wafer processing system/unit (Figure 2.3) including a vacuum pumping

system/unit (280; Figure 2) comprising a mechanical booster vacuum pump, or, equivalently, a

turbo-molecular vacuum pump (TMP Figures 2,3; column 9, line 60 - column 10, line 4).

Hamelin further teaches a butterfly valve (not shown; column 9, line 60 - column 10, line 4)

constituting his vacuum pumping system/unit (280; Figure 2; column 9, line 60 - column 10,

line 4).

Meder teaches a radiation transmission window (25; Figure 1) has a reflection prevention film of

indium-tin oxide (column 3; lines 40-50; see applicant's examples [0095]) thereby being a

10/790,180 Art Unit: 1792

transparent electroconductive film coating enabling prevention of the electromagnetic wave (UV; column 3; lines 40-50) inside of the processing chamber (20, Figure 1) from leaking out through the radiation transmission window (25; Figure 1). When the structure recited in the reference is substantially identical to that of the claims, claimed properties or functions are presumed to be inherent (In re Best, 562 F.2d 1252, 1255, 195 USPO 430, 433 (CCPA 1977); MPEP 2112.01).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add Gupta's laser scanner (335; Figure 3B) to Tsukazaki's particle detector (15, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59), and for Tsukazaki to replace his exhaustion means ("booster pump"; column 6, lines 6-11) with Hamelin's exhaustion means (280; Figure 2).

Further, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add Meder's reflection prevention film coating to Gupta's measurement window (15d, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) and grounding both Meder's reflection prevention film coating and Gupta's processing chamber (4,12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67).

Motivation to add Gupta's laser scanner (335; Figure 3B) to Tsukazaki's particle detector (15, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) is for detecting particles in a concentrated "volume" as taught by Gupta (column 8; lines 26-40), motivation for Tsukazaki to replace his exhaustion means ("booster pump"; column 6, lines 6-11) with Hamelin's exhaustion means (280; Figure 2) is for conducting processing applications that are "low pressure" as taught by Hamelin (column 9; lines 65-68).

Motivation to add Meder's reflection prevention film coating to Gupta's measurement window (15d, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) and grounding both Meder's reflection prevention film coating with Gupta's processing chamber (4,12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) is for

Application/Control Number: Page 8 10/790,180

Art Unit: 1792

preventing electrostatic discharges from damaging processed wafers as taught by Meder (column 3; lines 40-50).

4. Claims 8, 9, 13, 19, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsukazaki; Hisashi et al. (US 5837094 A) in view of Gupta; Anand et al. (US 6125789 A) and Meder; Martin G. (US 6254689 B1), Tsukazaki, Gupta, and Meder are discussed above. Tsukazaki further teaches a plasma processing unit (Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) including a chamber (4,12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67), a plate (2; Figure 3) on which a sample (1, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) is placed, a plasma generator (not shown; column 2, lines 27-36) which generates plasma inside of the chamber by application of an electromagnetic wave (column 2; lines 27-36) inside of the chamber, an exhaustion pump ("booster pump"; column 6, lines 6-11) for exhausting inside of the chamber (12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) through an exhaust port (conduit 12) of the chamber (12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67), and a measurement window (15d, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) formed on a wall of the chamber (12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67), the measurement window (15d, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) having a surface which is coated with a reflection prevention film and a transparent electroconductive film the transparent electroconductive film enabling prevention of the electromagnetic wave (column 2; lines 27-36) inside the processing chamber (4,12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) from leaking out through the measurement window (15d, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59), the plasma processing unit (Figure 3) being used for processing the sample placed on the plate with plasma generated by the plasma generator (not shown; column 2, lines 27-36) inside of the chamber (12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) – claim 8.

Tsukazaki further teaches:

Page 9

Application/Control Number:

10/790,180 Art Unit: 1792

i. Tsukazaki's particle detector unit (15, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) installed outside of the processing chamber (4,12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) detecting light which is scattered from a particle (column 3; lines 1-8), the laser (15a, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) introducing a laser from outside of the processing chamber (4,12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-

67) to inside of the processing chamber (4,12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) through the

measurement window (15d, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59); Tsukazaki's particle detector

unit (15, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) monitors the light scattered from the particle

crossing the plane of the processing window (15c; Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) and

passing outside of the processing chamber (4,12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) through the

measurement window (15d, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) - claim 8

ii. A plasma processing apparatus (Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) control system (31, Figure 3) comprising: a plasma processing unit (Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) including a chamber (4,12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67), a plate (2, Figure 3) on which a sample (1, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) is placed, a plasma generator (not shown; column 2, lines 27-36), and a measurement window (15d, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) formed on a wall (12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) of the chamber (4,12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67), the processing unit (Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) being used for processing the sample (1, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) placed on the plate (2, Figure 3) with the plasma generated by the plasma generator (not shown; column 2, lines 27-36) inside the chamber (4,12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67); and a controller unit (31, Figure 3) for receiving a signal output from the processing unit (Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) and a detection signal from the particle

detecting unit (15, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) to control the processing unit (Figure 3;

10/790,180 Art Unit: 1792

column 8, lines 10-67) and to monitor a state of contaminants inside the chamber (column 7; lines 31-67) - claim 8

Page 10

- iii. Tsukazaki's measurement window (15d, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) which is installed on the wall of the chamber (4,12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) proximate to the exhaust port (conduit 12) and outside of a region (above 1) where the plasma is generated by the plasma generator (not shown; column 2, lines 27-36) to prevent the measurement window (15d, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) from deterioration in detection sensitivity of the light scattered from the particles inside of the processing chamber (4,12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) claim 8. When the structure recited in the reference is substantially identical to that of the claims, claimed properties or functions are presumed to be inherent (In re Best, 562 F.2d 1252, 1255, 195 USPQ 430, 433 (CCPA 1977); MPEP 2112.01).
- iv. The plasma processing apparatus (Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) according to claim 8, wherein the controlling unit (31, Figure 3) compares the output signal ("end point"; column 5, lines 56-64; column 7, lines 31-40) from the processing unit (Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) with the detection signal by the particle detecting unit (15, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) to identify a contaminant source (column 7; lines 31-67) in the processing apparatus (Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67), as claimed by claim 9
- v. The plasma processing apparatus (Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) according to claim 8, wherein the particle detecting unit (15, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) includes a laser (15a, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) introduce the laser beam and a detector which which detects the scattered light and which are arranged at a substantially same position outside of the

10/790,180 Art Unit: 1792

chamber (4,12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) with respect to the measurement window

Page 11

(15d, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) - claim 13

Tsukazaki further teaches that Tsukazaki's particle detector (15, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-

59) transmitts a laser (15a, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) beam in a plane which extends in a direction which is orthogonal to an exhaust flow direction (along conduit 12) inside of the

chamber (4,12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) to the exhaust port - claims 8, 13

Tsukazaki does not teach

i. Tsukazaki's particle detector (15, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) scans a laser (15a,

Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) beam - claims 8, 13

The plasma processing apparatus (Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) according to claim 8,

wherein the plane in which the laser (15a, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) beam is

applied is inside of the chamber (4,12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) is substantially

outside of a region (above 1) where the plasma is generated inside of the chamber (4,12,

Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) - claim 19

None of Tsukazaki, Gupta and Meder teach that the claimed transparent conductive film and

the plasma processing apparatus "have a same potiential applied thereto", as claimed by claim

21.

ii.

Gupta teaches a similar apparatus (Figure 1B, 3B) including a scanning (335; Figure 3B) laser

system (330, 335; column 8; line 41 - column 9, line 23) for particle detection and processing.

Meder teaches a radiation transmission window (25; Figure 1) has a reflection prevention film of

indium-tin oxide (column 3; lines 40-50; see applicant's examples [0095]) thereby being a

transparent electroconductive film coating enabling prevention of the electromagnetic wave (UV;

10/790,180 Art Unit: 1792 Page 12

column 3; lines 40-50) inside of the processing chamber (20, Figure 1) from leaking out through

the radiation transmission window (25; Figure 1). When the structure recited in the reference is

substantially identical to that of the claims, claimed properties or functions are presumed to be

inherent (In re Best, 562 F.2d 1252, 1255, 195 USPQ 430, 433 (CCPA 1977); MPEP 2112.01).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made

to add Gupta's laser scanner (335; Figure 3B) to Tsukazaki's particle detector (15, Figure 3;

column 1, lines 44-59).

Motivation to add Gupta's laser scanner (335; Figure 3B) to Tsukazaki's particle detector (15,

Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) is for detecting particles in a concentrated "volume" as taught

by Gupta (column 8; lines 26-40).

Further, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

was made to add Meder's reflection prevention film coating to Gupta's measurement window

(15d, Figure 3; column 1, lines 44-59) and grounding both Meder's reflection prevention film

coating and Gupta's processing chamber (4,12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67).

Motivation to add Meder's reflection prevention film coating to Gupta's measurement window (15d. Figure 3: column 1, lines 44-59) and grounding both Meder's reflection prevention film

coating with Gupta's processing chamber (4,12, Figure 3; column 8, lines 10-67) is for preventing electrostatic discharges from damaging processed wafers as taught by Meder (column

3: lines 40-50).

10/790,180 Art Unit: 1792

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed December 12, 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

6. Applicant states:

"

By the present amendment, claims 15 and 18 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof and independent claims 5 and 8 amended to clarify and recite further features of the present invention, noting that as described in connection with Fig. 5 of the drawings of this application, for example, a microwave, which is an electromagnetic wave, as well as an electromagnet 23 is utilized in conjunction with gas injected in the processing chamber to generate plasma therein, as now recited in claims 5 and 8.

"

- 7. In response, the Examiner notes that no such claim recitation of "electromagnet", as a noun, distinct from "electromagnetic" as an adjective, is, or ever has been, recited in the pending claims. In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., "electromagnet") are not recited in the rejected claims. Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See In re Van Geuns, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).
- 8. Concerning Applicant's arguments (pages 8-9) centered on amendments qualifying Applicant's claimed electroconductive film, the Examiner agrees with respect to the analysis of the prior cited art to Nakano. However, the Examiner's updated search demonstrates that the

10/790,180

Art Unit: 1792

newly applied art to Meder provides motivation for the identical film coating as Applicant's own

Page 14

material cited in Applicant's specification ([0095]). Further, it also appears that Applicant's

newly added claims are also obvious in view of Meder who's motivation for the

electroconductive film is to reduce static discharges that may damage the processed workpieces.

See above.

Conclusion

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Examiner Rudy Zervigon whose telephone number is (571) 272-

1442. The examiner can normally be reached on a Monday through Friday schedule from 9am

through 5pm. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is

assigned is 571-273-8300. Any Inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this

application or proceeding should be directed to the Chemical and Materials Engineering art unit

receptionist at (571) 272-1700. If the examiner can not be reached please contact the examiner's

supervisor, Parviz Hassanzadeh, at (571) 272- 1435

/Rudy Zervigon/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1792